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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE JUDICIARY AND THE PEOPLE. By Frederick N. Judson, St. Louis, Mo. Yale University Press, New Haven; and Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, London, England, 1913. pp. 270.

This book is made up of the William L. Storrs lectures delivered by Mr. JUDSON for the law school of Yale University in 1913. The author has treated of a number of questions relating to the administration of law which have been before the country during the last few years. Chief among these are the matters of the independence of the judiciary, the separation of the powers of government, judicial review of legislation, and modern administrative commissions. Incidentally the subjects of recall of judges and recall of judicial decisions are considered. While the book does not profess to be one of research it is an original, well-balanced and suggestive treatment of the topics covered. In tone it is dispassionate and judicial. The author freely concedes that there are serious defects in our law and its administration but he finds weighty reasons in history and in logic for rejecting some of the nostrums already referred to offered for curing these ills. Like most other thoughtful lawyers, Mr. JUDSON believes that the recall of judges (at least if we are to retain our present short judicial terms), and the recall of judicial decisions would utterly fail to have the effect desired and would produce disastrous and fundamental changes in our political institutions. Mr. JUDSON also thinks that there may be detected perhaps a tendency to swing away from the short elective terms of judges and to return to appointment. He states that in 1789 no state judges were elected, whereas now state judges are elected in all but five states. But he points out that Mississippi, which was among the first of the states to adopt election as the mode of filling the bench, has abandoned it for appointment. See page 160.

Reference is made by the author to many of the best recent scholarly contributions to this general subject and the researches and views of the best recent writers have entered into his judgment. The proof-reading has not been done as carefully as it might have been but this has caused but slight defects in a very sound little book.

H. M. B.

THE LAW OF DECEDENTS' ESTATES, INCLUDING WILLS. An abridgment for the use of law students of J. G. Woerner's treatise on the American Law of Administration. Edited by William F. Woerner and F. A. Wislizenus, instructors in the law department of St. Louis and Washington Universities. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1913. pp. xxxvi. 527.

Judge WOERNER's original treatise on the American Law of Administration was perhaps the greatest contribution to the American law of decedents' estates, and has been used by practitioners and students more than any other single work on the subject. The present book is an abridgment of this work for use in law schools, and the editors, who have taught the subject in their

respective law schools, have endeavored to eliminate much of the detail and citation of authorities, indispensable to the practicing lawyer but unnecessary and confusing to the student. Apparently they have succeeded in doing this with much success. And the result of their work, so far as the reviewer has been able to test it, is an accurate statement of the fundamentals of the subject. Of course the use of textbooks has been abandoned in most of the leading law schools of the country, but for students in school or out who wish to use a compact and accurate statement of the law of administration this book may be commended.

H. M. B.

AIDS TO THE STUDY AND USE OF LAW BOOKS. A selected list, classified and annotated, of publications relating to law literature, law study and legal ethics, by Frederick C. Hicks, A.M., LL.B., Assistant Librarian of Columbia University. New York, Baker, Voorhis and Company, 1913. 129 p.

In a few more than a hundred pages, the compiler has classified some two hundred and twenty-six items under the following heads: Law Study; How and Where to Find the Law; Legal Bibliographies; Legal Terminology; Text-books and Treatises; Case Law; Statutes and Session Laws; Law Collections in the United States; Legal Ethics. Each chapter opens with a few explanatory paragraphs which are followed by annotated titles of books which describe law books. These lists do not aim to be complete but the selections are thought to be practically useful to students. Many of the entries under chapter heads could be more closely grouped to good advantage. For example, the Lists of Abbreviations and Regnal Years would be more convenient to consult, had they been printed on two pages instead of eight.

The index appended to the book is crude, at times misleading, and inadequate to bring out all the information contained therein. How and Where to Find the Law cannot be answered by referring to an instruction book alone, but one who reads or even looks at the volumes listed, cannot fail to derive much benefit. Until the time comes when a course in legal bibliography is included in every Law School curriculum, the assistance rendered by books such as the one reviewed, will be welcomed and appreciated and Mr. Hicks is to be commended for his efforts to help not only the students of his own university but others as well.

G. E. W.